

*With the Medical Officer's
Compliments*

**ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

Lanes

**Annual Report
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health.
1918.**

BRYN, NEAR WIGAN,
April, 1919.

To the Chairman and Members.

GENTLEMEN,

As you have had detailed reports each month regarding all the factors touching the health and environment of the population of your district, I need not enter into close detail of each feature.

Population.—As in the two previous years, the Registrar-General has supplied two sets of figures: one a “death-rate” population, which excludes all non-civilian males, whether serving at home or abroad; the other a “birth-rate (and marriage-rate)” population, embracing all the elements of the population contributing to the birth- and marriage-rates, that is, it includes all non-civilians enlisted, whether serving at home or abroad. The first is estimated to be 20,457, and the other 22,921, that is, a reduction of 644 in the one case and 601 in the other upon the previous year’s estimates.

Birth-rate.—The number of births registered in the district is 554 compared with 529 in the previous year, 607 for 1916, 610 for 1915, and 690 for 1914; the last representing the pre-war rate. It is a satisfaction to find the number increased in a diminished population. The corrected number of births given in the Registrar-General's return is 555 (284 males and 271 females), giving a birth-rate of 24·2 per 1,000 of population against 22·6 for 1917 and 30·4 in 1914. The number of illegitimate births, included in these figures, is 13 compared with 15 for 1917.

Mortality.—In comparing the tables given at the end of the report there will be found some discrepancies in the figures on the classification of causes of death compiled from local returns compared with those under the returns of the Registrar-General, and is accounted for by notifications in the light of fuller information obtained by that official. Table IIIa. is the official classification.

It has been an extremely unfortunate year owing to the fatal effects of severe epidemics of Measles and Whooping Cough, in the first half of the year, and Influenza in the second half. These have accounted for 134 deaths: 24 from Measles, 19 from Whooping Cough, and 91 from Influenza. These have increased the death-rate by 6·5 per 1,000—the total death-rate being 17·6 against 12·4 for 1917.

Infant Mortality.—Out of 59 deaths during the first year of life—compared with 53 for 1917—15 were due to the causes first enumerated, that is, 5 from Measles, 8 from Whooping Cough, and 2 from Influenza. It is some satisfaction that there was a reduction in other causes compared with 1917, although we all should like to see the number due to premature birth and debility reduced to the vanishing point. The infant death-rate equals 106 per 1,000 births against 99 for the year 1917.

Children under 5 years.—The total number of deaths up to the age of 5, including infants, equals 115 against 84 for 1917—giving a rate of 5·6 per 1,000 of the population.

Infant Welfare.—While much good work was done during the year by the Health Visitor in her visitations to the homes—and

the mothers, in most cases, responded to the efforts of the Visitor, showing their appreciation of the interest taken by the Health Committee in the welfare of their little ones. The work of the class was interfered with very materially by the epidemics mentioned in the previous paragraphs. I considered it wise to close the class from the end of January to April 25th, owing to Measles and Whooping Cough; and from October 24th to the end of the year, in fear of Influenza. This caused much disappointment to many of the mothers but, in my opinion, the precaution was a necessary one. Details of the work done under this head will be found in the Health Visitor's annual report (annexed).

Infectious Diseases.—As previously stated, the chief of these were Measles, Whooping Cough, and Influenza. As I presented a special report on Influenza at the end of the year, I do not propose to repeat the figures and reflections beyond what are included in the tables appended to this report.

Measles.—At the end of the year 1917 this disease began to break out, and in January became alarmingly epidemic throughout the whole district, particularly in the Central Ward. 244 cases were notified in that month, of which 117 were from the Central Ward. In February, 302 cases were notified, the West Ward then being most seriously affected. The epidemic did not wane until the end of April: 18 cases being notified in May and 3 in June. During the first six months there were notified in all, 789 cases—the total for the complete year being 793—with 25 deaths.

Whooping Cough.—Concurrently with Measles ran Whooping Cough, a combination which plays havoc with juvenile constitutions, not only in their immediate effects but in the impairment of health, which not infrequently is permanent. The number of deaths from Whooping Cough alone is 19. As the disease was not made notifiable, I am unable to give figures as to the number of children affected.

School closure was resorted to in order to stem these two diseases in the infant departments of the following schools, namely: Gerard's Infants, Garswood (January 9th to January 25th), Park

Lane R.C. (January 15th to February 1st), Emmanuel British, St. Thomas's and St. Oswald's (January 14th to February 1st, extended to February 22nd), St. Peter's, St. Andrew's, The Rectory, Park Lane Undenominational and St. Luke's (February 1st to February 22nd). Further, all schools had their Easter holiday extended from a week to a fortnight.

Scarlatina.—Compared with the two previous years this disease dealt lightly with us, 41 cases being notified (20 of these in Central Ward) against 136 in 1917 and 176 in 1916; 39 were admitted to the Hospital with 1 death. As I have frequently stated to the Committee, we are never absolutely free from this disease, owing chiefly to carelessness of parents in neglecting precautions and avoiding complete disinfection of clothing; and to overcrowding of children in bedrooms.

Enteric.—With this disease we were very fortunate, 7 cases being notified and dealt with in Hospital with 2 deaths.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—Five cases of this serious inflammation of the eyes of newly-born babies were notified during the year; all recovered, however, satisfactorily.

Diphtheria.—Twenty-three cases were notified and 22 admitted to the Hospital, with 3 deaths.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis or Spotted Fever.—There was 1 case notified, the diagnosis being confirmed by bacteriological examination of cerebro-spinal fluid. The case recovered without any consequent paralysis.

Tuberculosis.—Forty-eight cases were notified during the year, 27 of the pulmonary type and 21 non-pulmonary (in 1917 there were 51 cases); of these 48 cases, 29 were between the ages of 15 and 45 years, that is at the best working age and of the greatest economic value. The mortality was 10 from the pulmonary and 7 from the non-pulmonary type, that is a death-rate of 0.48 from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 0.8 from all forms, which is a serious reflection on the district.

Improved housing and sanitation and an enlightened public are required for a diminution of this scourge, the pre-disposing causes of which are bad housing, unhealthy occupations, and poverty. The direct and exciting cause is the infection by the tubercle bacilli, either from human beings or cattle. It is highly desirable that the Tuberculosis Order (1914), withdrawn since that date by Order of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, should be reinstated.

Bakehouses and Slaughter-houses.—These have been inspected and found to be kept in satisfactory condition.

Cowsheds and Milk Dealers' Premises have been kept under observation, and various recommendations made for the improvement of their surroundings.

Conclusion.—The attention of the Council is drawn to the various tables and schedules for the consideration of the various requirements of the district.

I remain,

Yours obediently,

HV. WINSTANLEY,

Medical Officer of Health.



TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1918 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

District of ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD

Year	Population estimated to middle of each year	BIRTHS		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT				
		Un-corrected Number	Nett Number	Rate	Number	Rate	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages	
									Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1913	22,295	686	...	30.9	344	15.42	6	27	121	175	365	17.9
1914	22,687	690	692	30.4	27.5	13.25	3	27	76	108	299	14.4
1915	21,709	610	610	28.0	350	16.12	1	36	96	157	385	17.73
1916	21,202	607	585	25.3	276	13.0	2	27	61	104	302	14.2
1917	21,101	529	532	22.6	225	10.6	2	39	53	99	262	12.4
1918*	20,457	554	555†	24.2	331	16.17	7	38	59	106	362§	17.6

*22,921 for Birth-rate.

†284 Males, 271 Females.

\$183 Males, 179 Females.

Area of District in acres (land and inland water) 6,251

At Census, 1911—Total Population at all ages 21,543

Number of inhabited houses 4,088

Average number of persons per house 5

DISTRICT OF ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD.

TABLE I. (a).

	Per 1,000 of Population		Rate of Deaths under 1 year to 1,000 Births.	
	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.	Phthisis Death-rate.	
1918	24.2	17.6	2.83	106
1917	22.6	12.4	0.94	97
Mean of 10 years (1908-1917)	29.3	14.4	2.33	130
Increase or Decrease in 1918 on—				
Previous year	+1.6	+5.2	+1.89	+ 9
Ten years' average	—5.1	+3.2	+0.50	—24

TABLE II.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1918.

District of ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD

Notifiable Diseases	Number of Cases Notified at Ages—Years						Total Cases Notified in each Locality					Total Cases Removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of patients re-moved from district		
	At all Ages	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and Upwards	Central Ward	North	South			East Ward	West Ward
Diphtheria (including Memb. Croup)	23	—	4	19	—	—	—	—	16	3	—	—	4	22	—
Erysipelas	9	—	—	1	2	2	3	1	1	1	3	1	3	—	—
Scarlet Fever	47	—	18	26	3	—	—	—	20	9	—	7	11	39	—
Enteric Fever	7	—	1	1	—	1	3	1	1	3	1	2	—	7	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Pul. Tuberculosis ...	27	—	—	3	7	11	6	—	7	2	2	9	7	—	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis	21	2	2	6	8	3	—	—	7	4	3	2	5	—	—
Ophthalmia															
Neonatorum	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	1	—	—
Measles	793	35	459	293	5	1	—	—	259	157	49	140	188	—	—
Totals	933	42	484	350	25	18	12	2	313	180	59	162	219	69	—

Isolation Hospital or Hospitals:—

Infectious Diseases Hospital, Bryn Road.

Small-pox Hospital, Golborne Road.

TABLE II. (a)

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT, 1918.

(To be forwarded to the County Medical Officer of Health, together with Form "C.")

Number of Cases of INFECTIOUS DISEASES Notified, Removed to Hospital, etc., during the year 1918.

District of ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD.

No. of Cases Notified	No. Removed to Hospital	No. of Deaths in Hospital of Persons belonging to the District
Small-pox.	—	—
Diphtheria and Membr. Group	23	3
Erysipelas	9	—
Scarlet Fever	47	1
Enteric Fever	7	2
Relapsing Fever	—	—
Continued Fever	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	27	—
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	21	—
Measles and German Measles	793	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Diphtheria, etc. (under 2 years)	—	—
Chicken-pox	—	—
TOTAL	—	—

Not Notifiable—Whooping Cough, Diarrhoea and Chicken-pox.

(Signed) H. WINSTANLEY,
Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE III.

CAUSE OF, AND AGES AT DEATH, DURING THE YEAR 1918.

District of ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD

DISTRICT OF ASHTON-IN-MARKETFIELD

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District (a)								Total Deaths of whether of 'Residents' or 'Non-Residents' in Institutions in the District (b)
	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards	
All Causes—Certified (c).....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uncertified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	5	9	8	3	—	—	—	—	25
Scarlet Fever	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	8	3	3	2	—	—	—	—	16
Diphtheria and Croup	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Influenza	2	2	8	16	9	31	18	4	90
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	—	—	—	—	4	2	4	—	10
Tuberculous Meningitis	2	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	5
Other Tuberculous Diseases	—	1	—	—	1	1	9	4	2
Cancer, malignant disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
Rheumatic Fever.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Organic Heart Disease	—	—	—	1	3	2	7	8	21
Bronchitis	6	—	1	—	—	1	7	10	25
Pneumonia (all forms)	9	8	1	2	1	4	5	2	32
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	3

TABLE III.—Continued.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH, DURING THE YEAR 1918.

District of ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD.

DISTRICT OF ASHTON-IN-MARKETFIELD.										
Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District (a)							Total Deaths whether of 'Residents' or 'Non-Residents' in Institutions in the District (b)		
	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards	Institutions in the District
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	—	4	3	2	1	—	—	—	1	11
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	3
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3
Alcoholism	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	5	2	10
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	—	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	—	—	—	1	1	1	3	4	—	10
Suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Defined Diseases	—	2	1	1	3	3	6	16	18	50
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	4
Totals	—	59	28	28	37	23	55	82	50	362

Sub-entries, included in above figures:—

Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE III. (a).

<i>Causes of Death.</i>							<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
ALL CAUSES (Civilians only)	...	...	...	...	...	...	183	179
1 Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
2 Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
3 Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	9
4 Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
5 Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	9
6 Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
7 Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	39	52
8 Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
9 Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5
10 Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
11 Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
12 Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	10
13 Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
14 Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
15 Organic Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	8
16 Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	15
17 Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	9
18 Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
19 Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3
20 Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
21 Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
21a Alcoholism	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
22 Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	3
23 Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
24 Parturition, apart from Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
25 Congenital Debility, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	9
26 Violence, apart from Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	2
27 Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
28 Other defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	33
29 Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Special Causes (included above):—								
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age (total)	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	24
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
TOTAL BIRTHS	...	...	...	...	...	...	284	271
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	278	264
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	7
POPULATION for BIRTH-RATE	...	...	...	...	...	...	22,921	
POPULATION for DEATH-RATE	...	...	...	...	...	...	20,457	

GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE,
SOMERSET HOUSE, LONDON, W.C.

April, 1919.

TABLE IV.

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1918

Nett Deaths from Stated Causes at Various Ages under One Year of Age

District of ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD.

Cause of Death	Under 1 year								Total Deaths under 1 year
	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months
All Causes—Certified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uncertified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	5	—
Tuberculous Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis	—	—	1	—	1	3	1	—	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	4	9
Euteritis	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—
Premature Birth and Congenital Debility	11	1	1	1	14	4	—	2	1
Other Causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals	11	1	2	2	16	12	6	16	8
									59
Nett Births in the year :—	Nett Deaths in the year of :—								
Legitimate	542	Legitimate Infants							
Illegitimate	13	Illegitimate Infants							
									55
									4

TABLE V.

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE and ANALYSIS of MORTALITY during the Year 1918.

(Provisional figures. Populations estimated to the middle of 1917 have been used for the purposes of this Table.)

	Birth-rate per 1,000 Total Population.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 CIVILIAN POPULATION.							RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.		
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small- pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whoop- ing Cough.	Diph- theria.	Violence.	Diarrhoea Total	Deaths and Enteritis (under 1 year. 2 years).
England and Wales.....	17.7	17.6	0.03	0.00	0.28	0.03	0.29	0.14	0.49	10.99	97
<hr/>											
Ninety-six Great Towns, including London (Census Populations ex- ceeding 50,000)	17.6	18.2	0.02	0.00	0.36	0.04	0.34	0.15	0.49	14.46	106
One hundred and forty-eight Smaller Towns (Census Populations 20,000-50,000)	17.9	16.1	0.03	-	0.25	0.02	0.25	0.14	0.38	9.73	94
London	16.1	18.9	0.02	-	0.42	0.03	0.43	0.17	0.56	15.67	107
Ashton-in-Makerfield.....	24.2	17.6	0.09	0.00	1.17	0.04	0.92	0.14	0.43	12.6	106

TABLE C.

Summary of Medical Officer's Report for 1918.

URBAN DISTRICT OF ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD.

Medical Officer of Health, Henry Winstanley—Salary of Medical Officer of Health, £125.
Inspector of Nuisances, David Gamble—Salary as Inspector, £160.

Is the Medical Officer of Health or Inspector of Nuisances away on Military Service ? No.

What is the character of the Hospital Accommodation ? For Small-pox, wood on brick foundations with corrugated roof, and corrugated covering on wood. For other Infectious Diseases, brick and stone buildings.

Is it Joint or otherwise ? Not joint.

Number of Beds available for your District ? For Small-pox, 8. For other Infectious Diseases, 40.

Deaths in Hospital of patients removed from your District and belonging thereto ? From what causes ? 6, viz., 3 from Diphtheria, 2 Enteric, and 1 Scarlatina.

How is Disinfection carried out ? Number of houses disinfected, 91. Method : Sulphur and Formaldehyde. Are houses disinfected after (a) Phthisis ? Yes. (b) Measles ? No. Apparatus used for clothing, bedding, etc. (steam or otherwise) ? Steam. Number of articles disinfected ? 602. Where is apparatus situated ? Infectious Hospital. If apparatus at a Hospital is available, is it used for the disinfection of clothing, bedding, etc., of patients *not* removed to the Hospital ? Yes.

Are any Diseases not specifically mentioned in the Infectious Diseases Notification Act notifiable (for instance, Whooping Cough, Diarrhoea, Chicken-pox, etc.) ? If so, what are they ? No.

Diseases specially prevalent ? Measles and Influenza. Period ? Measles first half year, Influenza during second half-year. Number of times School Closure adopted ? 3. For what Disease ? Measles and Influenza.

Number of Special Reports made under Art. XIX. (15 and 16) Sanitary Officers' Order, 1910 ? One (Influenza).

Bacteriological Examinations. Specimens examined : Blood, 3. Swabs, nil. Sputum, nil. Milk, nil. Others, 1 (cerebro-spinal fluid).

Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order, 1910. Is a supply of Anti-toxin kept *within* the district ? Yes. If so, where ? At the Hospital. Amount used during 1918 ? 37 vials (4,000 units) and 8 vials (2,000 units).

TABLE C.—Continued.

<p>“The Housing of the Working Classes Acts, 1890 to 1909”</p>	<p>Has your Authority determined the procedure to be adopted for the inspection of your District as required by Article I. of the Regulations of 2nd September, 1910 ? Yes.</p> <p>Has your Authority prepared, as required by Article I. (3), a list of dwelling-houses, the “early inspection of which is, in the opinion of the M.O.H., desirable ? Yes.</p> <p>Has your Authority designated an Officer to undertake the special inspection of houses and to keep the records stipulated by Articles (II.) and (III.) Yes.</p> <p>If so, what Officer ? Sanitary Inspector.</p> <p>Have the necessary books, forms, etc., for keeping the required records been obtained and maintained ? Yes.</p> <p>Action taken in 1918 under the Housing Acts :—</p> <p>Total number of dwelling-houses inspected under Sec. 17 of the Act of 1909, <i>i.e.</i>, with a view to ascertaining whether any dwelling-houses are unfit for human habitation ? Nil.</p> <p>Have the particulars of these inspections, as specified in Article II. (1) to (8), and Article III. (1) to (8), of the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, been fully recorded ?</p> <p>Number of dwelling-houses considered unfit for human habitation ? Nil.</p> <p>Number of representations to Authority with a view to making Closing Orders ? Nil.</p> <p>Number of Closing Orders made ? Nil.</p> <p>Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied without making Closing Orders ? Nil.</p> <p>Number of dwelling-houses put into a fit state of habitation after making Closing Orders ? Nil.</p> <p>Number of dwelling-houses demolished ? Nil.</p> <p>General character of defects found to exist ?</p> <p>Yes. General—in every Ward.</p> <p>The District Council have in hand a Scheme involving in full 200 houses.</p> <p>By and at the cost of the District Council ? None. By Private Enterprise ? None.</p>
<p>Is there a deficiency of housing accommodation ? If so, where, and to what extent ?</p> <p>What steps are being taken to meet the deficiency ?</p> <p>Number of New Houses built during 1918 ?</p>	

TABLE C.—Continued.

Source of the Water Supply— What is its condition ? Possibilities of contamination ? Any insufficiency, and where ? Nature of extensions (if any) during the year ?	Council's own reservoirs and gathering grounds, together with regular supply from Liverpool's Rivington reservoirs. Satisfactory. Slight. No. Nil.
Is Scavenging and Removal of House Refuse carried out satisfactorily for whole of district ? How performed (state whether by Sanitary Authority, Contract, or Occupiers of Houses) ? If Privy Middens exist, are they emptied by day or night ?	Yes. Sanitary Authority. By day.
How is the Refuse disposed of ? Has a destructor been provided ?	Ashes carted to depots, screened and mixed with pail contents and sold to farmers. No.
Sewage Disposal Works. Method of Treatment ? What is the character of the Drainage System ? Any developments during year ? Areas, or Townships, without proper drainage system ? Action taken—Drain Testing, Flushing, etc. ?	Bacterial. Satisfactory. No developments. Only in remote rural parts of Township. As required.
Action taken with regard to the Pollution of Streams ?	Nil.

TABLE C.—Continued.

Canal Boats : Number Inspected ?	Nil.	Number of Infringements of Acts ? Nil.
What is the condition of the Bakelhouses ?	Good.	
"	Good.	Number registered ? 2. Number licensed ? Has a Public Abattoir been provided ? No.
"	Nil.	Are they registered ? Nil.
What is the Sanitary Condition of the Schools ?	Fairly satisfactory.	
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops— Are they periodically inspected ?	Yes.	What is their condition ? Fair.
Have Regulations been made under the Order of the L.G.B. ?	Yes.	Are they enforced ? Yes.
Amount of air space in cubic feet re- quired for each cow ?	(a) Where cows are habitually grazed ? (b) Where cows are <i>not</i> habitually grazed ?	800 cubic feet.
Cowkeepers ?	Total number of Cowkeepers ? 44.	Number on Register ? 44.
Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers) ?	specimens during year ? 120.	
Any arrangements for Veterinary in- spection of dairy cows ?	Total number of Dairymen or Milk Purveyors ? 4.	Number on Register ? 4.
Action taken (if any) as to tuberculous milk ?	Yes, when necessary.	
Inspection of Food— Amount condemned or surrendered as unfit for human consumption—	Nil.	
(a) Tuberculous carcasses and parts ?	1048½ lbs.	
(b) Diseased, unsound, or unwhole- some meat (<i>other than above</i>) ?	(a) 260 lbs.	
(c) Other food stuffs ?	(b) 595½ lbs.	
Number of Legal Proceedings, and result ?	(c) 193½ lbs.	
	Nil.	

TABLE C.—Continued.

Department of Inspector of Nuisances.	Number of Notices served ? Informal 84, Statutory 28. Number of Nuisances abated ? 370. Number of Legal Proceedings taken, and result ? 2. Orders made for work to be carried out in three weeks, and costs including Advocates' fees.
Closets and Ashpits.	Privy Middons : Number of Middens ? 3. Number of Closets attached to these Middons ? 3. Number of Pail Closets ? 3752. Number of Ashpits (<i>excluding middens</i>) ? 2952. Number of Fresh Water Closets ? 496. Number of Portable Receptacles for refuse ? 132. Number of Waste Water Closets ? 25. Number of Privy Closets converted during 1918 ? To Waste W.C.'s ? Nil. To Pails, etc. ? Nil. Number of Pail Closets converted to—Fresh W.C.'s ? Nil. Waste W.C.'s ? Nil. Number of Waste W.C.'s converted to Fresh W.C.'s ? Nil. Does Council contribute towards the cost of conversion ? No. What kind of closet accommodation is being provided for <i>new</i> property ? Fresh W.C.'s.
Smoke.	Number of observations ? Nil. Number of Legal Proceedings, and result ? Nil. What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per hour ?
Has the Authority adopted—	"The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890" ? "The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907" ? Yes. "The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890" ? Yes.
Has a Health Visitor been appointed by the Local Council ? State whether whole or part time ? Qualifications of Health Visitor ? Has any, and, if so what, action been taken by the Council respecting Child Welfare Work ?	Yes. Whole time. C.M.B. Certificate. Trained Nurse and Health Certificate. Yes. Visiting by Health Visitor. Baby Welfare Class : weekly meeting of two hours.

TABLE C.—Continued.

Has any Scheme been prepared in regard to the Supply of Food and Milk for Expectant and Nursing Mothers, and of Milk for Infants ?	No formal scheme, but assistance given in selected cases.
Is there a District Nursing Association in the District ?	Yes. How many District Nurses employed ? One.
If so, does any arrangement exist between the Council and the Association in respect of Child Welfare Work ?	No.
If no such arrangement exists, does the Association voluntarily undertake Child Welfare Work ?	No.
Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1918 ?	None.
Chief Sanitary requirements of District ?	Paving of back streets and yards. Destructor. Conversion of pail to w.c. system. Increased housing accommodation. Elimination of ashpits and substitution of receptacles of galvanised iron.

March 13th, 1919.

H. Y. WINSTANLEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

Inspector of Nuisances' *Annual Report, 1918.*



HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES, ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD,
March, 1919.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

SIR,

Below is a summary of nuisances dealt with during the year 1918, which is as follows :—

Damp and defective walls	36
Defective roofs and spouts	69
„ floors	11
„ slopstones	2
„ waste pipes	11
„ windows and doors	31
„ fireplaces	14
„ plasterwork	12
„ paving in yards	2
Dilapidated closets and ashpits	8
„ pails and ashpit doors	35
Choked drains and gullies	120
Houses requiring cleansing	7
Miscellaneous	13
Workshops requiring cleansing	—
Cowsheds requiring cleansing	7
Number of houses fumigated	91
„ articles disinfected	602

The Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops have been inspected. The following are the details of the inspection :—

Number of cowsheds on register	... ..	44
„ dairies and milkshops on register		4

DEFECTS FOUND.

Require limewashing and cleansing	... ..	7
Defective paving	... ..	2
Stopped and insufficient drainage	... ..	4
Defective middensteads	... ..	10

Only one Slaughter-house has been in use during the past year, which has been frequently inspected and found clean.

DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES.

Number of notices served (preliminary)	... ..	84
„ „ (statutory)	... ..	28
Legal proceedings taken	... ..	2

Result.—Orders made for the work to be carried out within one month, and costs in both cases.

Number of nuisances remedied...	370
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CLOSET ACCOMMODATION OF THE DISTRICT.

Number of privy middens	3
„ pail closets	3752
„ fresh water closets	... ..	496
„ waste water closets	... ..	25
„ ashpits	... ..	2952
„ movable ashbins	... ..	132

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909.

The inspection under above Act has been in abeyance during the past year owing to insufficient labour due to the war.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACTS.

	<i>Inspections. Written Notices. Prosecutions.</i>		
Factories	22	2	Nil
Workshops	75	Nil	Nil
Workplaces	36	Nil	Nil
Total	133	2	Nil

DEFECTS FOUND.

Want of cleanliness	7
Insufficient closet accommodation	2
Other nuisances	12

REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Dressmakers and milliners	26
Tailors	3
Bakers and confectioners	28
Painters and plumbers	4
Joiners and builders	7
Shoeing smiths	3
Wheelwrights	2
Cooper	1
Saddler	1
Motor and cycle repairers	5
Lock and hinge manufacturers	18
File cutters	2
Tool sharpener	1
Mineral water manufacturers	3
Sugar boiler	1
Laundries	2
Printer	1
Cotton spinners and manufacturers	2
Gasworks	1
Provender dealer	1
Boot, shoe and clog manufacturers	19
Stocking knitters	2
Total	133

FOOD CONDEMNED.

Mutton	...	...	...	...	...	...	591 lbs.
Meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	260 „
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	...	4½ „
Margarine	...	...	...	...	...	...	9½ „
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	...	184 „
Total							<u>1048¾ „</u>

SHOPS ACTS.

Number of shops on register	...	...	...	330
„ visits to shops	...	...	...	610
„ shops without closing notice	...	...	...	32

DAVID GAMBLE,

Inspector of Nuisances.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

I beg to report that the number of visits paid in the year 1918 under the Notification of Births Acts, 1907 and 1915, in the Ashton-in-Makerfield Urban District, was 1,873.

The number of deaths of children under one year of age is 57. The number of deaths from prematurity is no doubt capable of much reduction.

7	of whom lived less than one day.
4	“ “ “ week.
6	“ “ “ month.
4	“ “ one month.
17	wholly breast-fed.
10	mixed feeding.
9	dairy milk.
4	condensed milk.
7	dried preparations.
10	no feeding.

It is difficult to persuade mothers to abandon the use of unsuitable food. Implicit faith is put by many of them in printed statements on the labels.

Miscellaneous Visits paid. 215.—The reason for these visits :—

Cases of Ophthalmia.

Special instructions from the Medical Officer of Health.

Requests from the Doctors.

Sanitary defects, etc.

Forty school cases were visited during the year, and a weekly report sent in to the Medical Officer of Health.

Notification of Measles, 793 cases.—This proved an extensive epidemic, and at the height, notifications were reaching the department at the rate of 130 per week.

THE BABIES' WELFARE CENTRE.

This is working up to a very good maternity and child welfare scheme.

Total attendances of babies and mothers	
in 1918 was	374
The number of new babies who joined in	
1918 was	91

The mothers were advised as to the general upbringing of their babies ; whose weights were recorded at each visit. Simple talks were frequently given to the mothers during the afternoons ; a cup of tea, etc., was provided.

Patterns of children's hygienic clothing were cut out, and supplied to the mothers.

Workshops, where women only are employed, were visited ; the regulations as to limewashing and cleanliness were enforced.

Sanitary defects were also reported on to the Inspector of Nuisances.

SUMMARY OF VISITS MADE, ETC., 1918.

Notification of births	1873
Infant mortality investigations	57
Visits to school cases	40
Miscellaneous visits	215
Notification of Measles... ..	793
Inspection of workshops	36
The Babies' Welfare Centre	28
Interviews	84

MARY HAWORTH,

Health Visitor.

Dr. WINSTANLEY, Bryn.